

Remarks

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2005. The Office Action rejected claims 1-9 and 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Patent No. WO 97/47119 (Hansson). Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Hansson.

In response, Applicants have amended claims 4, 5, 15, 16, 19, and 20. Claims 1-20 remain for consideration.

Claims 1-9 and 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hansson. In order for a claim to be anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102, **each and every** limitation of the claim must be found either expressly or inherently in a single prior art reference. PIN/NIP, Inc. v. Platte Chem. Co., 304 F.3d 1235, 1243 (Fed. Cir. 2002). In the present case, Hansson does not show each and every limitation of claims 1-9 and 11-20. Therefore, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

The present invention is generally directed to a method and apparatus by which a sender can direct information such as an audiovisual signal to a particular recipient's audiovisual display device and thereby share information between the sender and the recipient. The calling party originates a connection on a voice communications network (e.g., a telephone call) and associates that telephone call with audio-visual information that exists on the caller's computer or on an Internet server. The called party answers the call, and can tune an associated cable television to the appropriate channel in order to view the audio-visual information.

Hansson is directed to access to telephony networks and Internet protocol (IP) based networks over a shared physical medium, such as a TV distribution network. An object of Hansson is to provide access to services of at least one telephony network and at least one IP based network over a TV distribution

network, a shared medium, which is enhanced to provide logical two-way links. For the reasons discussed below, Hansson does not disclose the presently claimed invention under the strict §102 standard as set forth above.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a method of sharing information between a sender and a recipient's audiovisual display device over a data network. Independent claim 1 claims the limitation of:

associating the connection with information to be sent across the data network to the recipient's audiovisual display device based on the established association between the recipient's voice communication network address with the recipient's data communication network address.

Hansson does not disclose this limitation. The Office Action states that Hansson discloses the above-identified claim limitation at page 15, lines 1-10 and page 23, line 28 – page 24, line 25. Page 15, lines 1-10 of Hansson discloses that "Data communication with an IP network is always possible through the TV distribution network 8." Page 23, line 28 – page 24, line 25 of Hansson discloses a first user wanting to connect a call to a second user. When the request of establishing a connection with the second user reaches the telephony server, the telephony server recognizes the telephone number as one of the users in a TV distribution network. The call is then forwarded directly to the correct end user without passing the public PSTN network. Hansson's invention is directed to a method to provide access to services of a multitude of different communication service networks over a TV distribution network characterized by using the IP protocols as an internal multiplexing and transport mechanism. (See Hansson's claim 1).

Hansson does not, however, disclose **associating** the connection with information to be sent across the data network to the recipient's audiovisual display device **based on the established association between the recipient's voice communication network address with the recipient's data communication network address**. Hansson discloses forwarding a call directly

to an end user without passing through the public PSTN network but does not disclose an association between the voice connection with information to be sent across the data network based on an established association between the recipient's voice communication network address with the recipient's data communication network address. These distinctions render Hansson unable to anticipate claim 1 under §102.

Independent claim 13 is allowable for reasons similar to those described above in connection with claim 1. In particular, claim 13 is a computer readable medium containing executable program instructions for sharing information between a sender and a recipient over a data network. Claim 13, as amended, contains the limitation of:

means for receiving from the sender a designation of information associated with the connection;

For the reasons described above, Hansson does not disclose means for receiving from the sender a designation of information associated with the voice connection. Thus, Hansson does not anticipate each and every limitation of claim 13.

For the reasons discussed above, independent claims 1 and 13 are allowable over Hansson. Dependent claims 2-12, 14-16, and 19-22 depend upon an allowable independent claim and are therefore also allowable. In addition, these dependent claims add additional patentable subject matter and are also allowable for the reasons discussed below.

Dependent claim 3 claims the limitation of the recipient authorizing the broadcast by remaining on the connection for a designated period of time. The Office Action states that Hansson discloses this limitation on page 17, lines 18-23. Page 17, lines 18-23 disclose that Hansson's TV Internet Protocol Network Terminal (NT) detects an on hook condition of the telephone of user A and then the connection to user B is terminated. Hansson does not, however, disclose

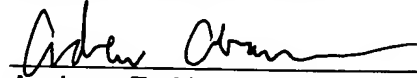
authorizing a broadcast of information by remaining on the connection for a **designated period of time**. Terminating a user's telephone connection is not the same as authorizing a broadcast of information by remaining on a voice connection for a designated period of time. Therefore, dependent claim 3 is allowable.

Dependent claims 4 and 5 claim the limitation of the recipient authorizing the broadcast by transmitting a signal across the voice communication network or the data network after the voice connection has been established. The Office Action states that this limitation is disclosed on page 18 of Hansson, lines 6-8, by the recipient answering the call. This limitation is not disclosed by Hansson's recipient answering a call because answering a call is to establish a call. Thus, Hansson does not disclose transmitting a signal over either the voice communication network or data network after the voice connection has been established. Therefore, dependent claims 4 and 5 are allowable.

Dependent claims 12 and 16 contain the limitation of ending the broadcast of the information to the recipient's audiovisual device when the connection between the sender and the recipient ends. The Office Action states that this limitation is disclosed when a session is terminated by an "on hook" condition and cites page 17, lines 18-24. Hansson discloses terminating a voice connection between two users when the NT detects an on hook condition. Hansson does not, however, disclose ending a broadcast of information to the recipient's audiovisual device when the connection between the sender and recipient ends.

For the reasons discussed above, all pending claims are allowable over the cited art. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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